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* 1436 *Q.*—SRI K. T. SREEDHARAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have deferred the request of the Kerala Ayurvedic Society, Cannanore, Malabar, for ' Grant-in-aid ' to the Madhava Memorial Ayurvedic College and Hospital, Cannanore; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The Government had to defer the request, because of the financial stringency of the State."

[Starred question No. 1437 answered along with starred question No. 1371.]

Expenditure on the elections to panchayats.

* 1438 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) the expenditure incurred in connexion with panchayat elections in the State; and

(*b*) the total number of panchayat boards in the State?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (*a*) The total expenditure incurred in connexion with the recent elections to panchayats up to 31st January 1954 was Rs. 3,52,747–9–5.

" (*b*) The total number of panchayats in the State is 4,596."

Reversion of Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars after the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive.

* 1439 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to his answer to starred question No. 41, dated 4th March 1954, the number of Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars in this State who stand reverted on or before 4th March 1954 and who have satisfactorily completed their probation in the Revenue Department after separation of the Judiciary from the Executive?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—

" Tahsildars—11.

Deputy Tahsildars—66."

Abolition of the Panchakarma Ward in the hospital attached to the Government College of Indigenous Medicine.

* 1440 *Q.*—SRI N. GOPALA MENON : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have abolished the Panchakarma Ward in the hospital attached to the Government College of Indigenous Medicine; and

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(b) if so, the total number of patients whose names were registered in the waiting list at the time?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) The Panchakarma Ward in the Hospital of Indigenous Medicine has not been abolished, but the name of the ward has been changed into Ayurveda Ward II.

' (b) The question does not arise."

Harijan students in the Veterinary College of Madras.

* 1441 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the number of students studying in the Veterinary College, Madras; and

(b) the number of Harijans among them?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) & (b) During 1953-54, 314 students were studying in the Madras Veterinary College for the B.V.Sc. course of which one was a Harijan, and 41 students were studying for the Veterinary and Livestock Inspector's course of which none was a Harijan."

Assignment of darkhast lands to Harijans in Kasaragod taluk.

* 1442 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of darkhast petitions received by Government from the Harijans of Kasaragod taluk since 1948 up to 31st December 1953;

(b) in how many cases assignments have been made so far; and

(c) in how many cases petitions have been rejected?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—

" (a) 1,154.

" (b) 168.

" (c) 671."

Closure of handloom co-operative societies in 1953.

* 1443 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state how many handloom co-operative societies were closed due to loss in the year 1953?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Only one Handloom Weavers' Society was closed in 1953 due to loss. Six societies were closed due to reasons other than loss in transactions."